



STATE OF MONTANA

INVITATION FOR BID (IFB)

(THIS IS NOT AN ORDER)

IFB Number: IFB0810031-JG	IFB Title: Multi-parameter Automated Titration & Ion Analysis System
IFB Due Date and Time: Tuesday May 27 th , 2008 2 p.m., Local Time	Number of Pages: 17

ISSUING AGENCY INFORMATION

Procurement Officer: Jennifer Garza	Issue Date: Monday May 5 th , 2008
Department of Public Health & Human Services Budget & Financial Services Division Central Purchasing Office 111 N Sanders St, Rm 8 Helena MT 59601	Phone: (406) 444-2851 Fax: (406) 444-7358 TTY Users, Dial 711 Website: http://gsd.mt.gov/

INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

COMPLETE THE INFORMATION BELOW AND RETURN THIS PAGE WITH YOUR BID AND ANY REQUIRED DOCUMENTS TO THE ADDRESS LISTED ABOVE UNDER "ISSUING AGENCY INFORMATION."	Mark Face of Envelope/Package: IFB Number: IFB0810031-JG IFB Due Date: 5/27/08, 2 pm
	Special Instructions: Questions pertaining to this IFB must be submitted via email to jgarza@mt.gov by 5pm on Monday 5/12/08. Answers will be posted with the IFB on our website http://gsd.mt.gov/osbs/Default.asp by 5 pm on Wednesday 5/14/08.

BIDDERS MUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING

Payment Terms: Net 30 days	Delivery Date:
Bidder Name/Address:	Authorized Bidder Signatory: (Please print name and sign in ink)
Bidder Phone Number:	Bidder FAX Number:
Bidder E-mail Address:	
IMPORTANT: SEE STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS	

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Standard Terms and Conditions

By submitting a response to this invitation for bid, request for proposal, limited solicitation, or acceptance of a contract, the vendor agrees to acceptance of the following Standard Terms and Conditions and any other provisions that are specific to this solicitation or contract.

ACCEPTANCE/REJECTION OF BIDS, PROPOSALS, OR LIMITED SOLICITATION RESPONSES: The State reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, proposals, or limited solicitation responses, wholly or in part, and to make awards in any manner deemed in the best interest of the State. Bids, proposals, and limited solicitation responses will be firm for 30 days, unless stated otherwise in the text of the invitation for bid, request for proposal, or limited solicitation.

ACCESS AND RETENTION OF RECORDS: The contractor agrees to provide the department, Legislative Auditor, or their authorized agents, access to any records necessary to determine contract compliance. (Section 18-1-118, MCA). The contractor agrees to create and retain records supporting the services rendered or supplies delivered for a period of three years after either the completion date of the contract or the conclusion of any claim, litigation, or exception relating to the contract taken by the State of Montana or third party.

ALTERATION OF SOLICITATION DOCUMENT: In the event of inconsistencies or contradictions between language contained in the State's solicitation document and a vendor's response, the language contained in the State's original solicitation document will prevail. Intentional manipulation and/or alteration of solicitation document language will result in the vendor's disqualification and possible debarment.

ASSIGNMENT, TRANSFER AND SUBCONTRACTING: The contractor shall not assign, transfer or subcontract any portion of the contract without the express written consent of the department. (Section 18-4-141, MCA.)

AUTHORITY: The attached bid, request for proposal, limited solicitation, or contract is issued under authority of Title 18, Montana Code Annotated, and the Administrative Rules of Montana, Title 2, chapter 5.

COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS: The contractor must, in performance of work under the contract, fully comply with all applicable federal, state, or local laws, rules and regulations, including the Montana Human Rights Act, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Any subletting or subcontracting by the contractor subjects subcontractors to the same provision. In accordance with section 49-3-207, MCA, the contractor agrees that the hiring of persons to perform the contract will be made on the basis of merit and qualifications and there will be no discrimination based upon race, color, religion, creed, political ideas, sex, age, marital status, physical or mental disability, or national origin by the persons performing the contract.

CONFORMANCE WITH CONTRACT: No alteration of the terms, conditions, delivery, price, quality, quantities, or specifications of the contract shall be granted without prior written consent of the State Procurement Bureau. Supplies delivered which do not conform to the contract terms, conditions, and specifications may be rejected and returned at the contractor's expense.

DEBARMENT: The contractor certifies, by submitting this bid or proposal, that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction (contract) by any governmental department or agency. If the contractor cannot certify this statement, attach a written explanation for review by the State.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS: The State of Montana does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operations of its programs, services, or activities. Individuals who need aids, alternative document formats, or services for effective communications or other disability related

accommodations in the programs and services offered are invited to make their needs and preferences known to this office. Interested parties should provide as much advance notice as possible.

FACSIMILE RESPONSES: Facsimile responses will be accepted for invitations for bids, small purchases, or limited solicitations ONLY if they are completely received by the State Procurement Bureau prior to the time set for receipt. Bids, or portions thereof, received after the due time will not be considered. Facsimile responses to requests for proposals are ONLY accepted on an exception basis with prior approval of the procurement officer.

FAILURE TO HONOR BID/PROPOSAL: If a bidder/offeror to whom a contract is awarded refuses to accept the award (PO/contract) or fails to deliver in accordance with the contract terms and conditions, the department may, in its discretion, suspend the bidder/offeror for a period of time from entering into any contracts with the State of Montana.

FORCE MAJEURE: Neither party shall be responsible for failure to fulfill its obligations due to causes beyond its reasonable control, including without limitation, acts or omissions of government or military authority, acts of God, materials shortages, transportation delays, fires, floods, labor disturbances, riots, wars, terrorist acts, or any other causes, directly or indirectly beyond the reasonable control of the nonperforming party, so long as such party is using its best efforts to remedy such failure or delays.

HOLD HARMLESS/INDEMNIFICATION: The contractor agrees to protect, defend, and save the State, its elected and appointed officials, agents, and employees, while acting within the scope of their duties as such, harmless from and against all claims, demands, causes of action of any kind or character, including the cost of defense thereof, arising in favor of the contractor's employees or third parties on account of bodily or personal injuries, death, or damage to property arising out of services performed or omissions of services or in any way resulting from the acts or omissions of the contractor and/or its agents, employees, representatives, assigns, subcontractors, except the sole negligence of the State, under this agreement.

LATE BIDS AND PROPOSALS: Regardless of cause, late bids and proposals will not be accepted and will automatically be disqualified from further consideration. It shall be solely the vendor's risk to ensure delivery at the designated office by the designated time. Late bids and proposals will not be opened and may be returned to the vendor at the expense of the vendor or destroyed if requested.

PAYMENT TERM: All payment terms will be computed from the date of delivery of supplies or services OR receipt of a properly executed invoice, whichever is later. Unless otherwise noted in the solicitation document, the State is allowed 30 days to pay such invoices. All contractors will be required to provide banking information at the time of contract execution in order to facilitate State electronic funds transfer payments.

RECIPROCAL PREFERENCE: The State of Montana applies a reciprocal preference against a vendor submitting a bid from a state or country that grants a residency preference to its resident businesses. A reciprocal preference is only applied to an invitation for bid for supplies or an invitation for bid for nonconstruction services for public works as defined in section 18-2-401(9), MCA, and then only if federal funds are not involved. For a list of states that grant resident preference, see <http://gsd.mt.gov/procurement/preferences.asp>.

REFERENCE TO CONTRACT: The contract or purchase order number MUST appear on all invoices, packing lists, packages, and correspondence pertaining to the contract.

REGISTRATION WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE: Any business intending to transact business in Montana must register with the Secretary of State. Businesses that are incorporated in another state or country, but which are conducting activity in Montana, must determine whether they are transacting business in Montana in accordance with sections 35-1-1026 and 35-8-1001, MCA. Such businesses may want to obtain the guidance of their attorney or accountant to determine whether their activity is considered transacting business.

If businesses determine that they are transacting business in Montana, they must register with the Secretary of State and obtain a certificate of authority to demonstrate that they are in good standing in Montana. To obtain registration materials, call the Office of the Secretary of State at (406) 444-3665, or visit their website at <http://sos.mt.gov>.

SEPARABILITY CLAUSE: A declaration by any court, or any other binding legal source, that any provision of the contract is illegal and void shall not affect the legality and enforceability of any other provision of the contract, unless the provisions are mutually dependent.

SHIPPING: Supplies shall be shipped prepaid, F.O.B. Destination, unless the contract specifies otherwise.

SOLICITATION DOCUMENT EXAMINATION: Vendors shall promptly notify the State of any ambiguity, inconsistency, or error which they may discover upon examination of a solicitation document.

TAX EXEMPTION: The State of Montana is exempt from Federal Excise Taxes (#81-0302402).

TECHNOLOGY ACCESS FOR BLIND OR VISUALLY IMPAIRED: Contractor acknowledges that no state funds may be expended for the purchase of information technology equipment and software for use by employees, program participants, or members of the public unless it provides blind or visually impaired individuals with access, including interactive use of the equipment and services, that is equivalent to that provided to individuals who are not blind or visually impaired. (Section 18-5-603, MCA.) Contact the State Procurement Bureau at (406) 444-2575 for more information concerning nonvisual access standards.

TERMINATION OF CONTRACT: Unless otherwise stated, the State may, by written notice to the contractor, terminate the contract in whole or in part at any time the contractor fails to perform the contract.

UNAVAILABILITY OF FUNDING: The contracting agency, at its sole discretion, may terminate or reduce the scope of the contract if available funding is reduced for any reason. (Section 18-4-313(4), MCA.)

U.S. FUNDS: All prices and payments must be in U.S. dollars.

VENUE: This solicitation is governed by the laws of Montana. The parties agree that any litigation concerning this bid, request for proposal, limited solicitation, or subsequent contract, must be brought in the First Judicial District in and for the County of Lewis and Clark, State of Montana, and each party shall pay its own costs and attorney fees. (Section 18-1-401, MCA.)

WARRANTIES: The contractor warrants that items offered will conform to the specifications requested, to be fit and sufficient for the purpose manufactured, of good material and workmanship, and free from defect. Items offered must be new and unused and of the latest model or manufacture, unless otherwise specified by the State. They shall be equal in quality and performance to those indicated herein. Descriptions used herein are specified solely for the purpose of indicating standards of quality, performance, and/or use desired. Exceptions will be rejected.

Revised 11/06

SECTION 1: GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The STATE OF MONTANA, Department of Public Health & Human Services, State Environmental Laboratory (hereinafter referred to as "the State") is soliciting bids for a "Multi-parameter Automated Titration & Ion Analysis System" in new condition. A more complete description of the supplies and/or services sought is provided in Section 4 of this IFB. Bids submitted in response to this solicitation must comply with the instructions and procedures contained herein.

1.1 INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

1.1.1 Procurement Officer Contact Information. Contact information for the procurement officer is as follows:

Procurement Officer: Jennifer Garza
Address: 111 N Sanders St., Rm 8
Telephone Number: 406-444-2851
Fax Number: 406-444-7358
E-mail Address: jgarza@mt.gov

1.1.2 Examination of Solicitation Documents and Explanation to Bidders. Bidders are responsible for examining the solicitation documents and any addenda issued to become informed as to all conditions that might in any way affect the cost or performance of any work. Failure to do so will be at the sole risk of the bidder. Should the bidder find discrepancies in or omissions from the solicitation documents, or should their intent or meaning appear unclear or ambiguous, or should any other question arise relative to the solicitation documents, the bidder shall promptly notify the Procurement Officer in writing. The bidder making such request will be solely responsible for its timely receipt by the Procurement Officer. Replies to such notices may be made in the form of an addendum to the solicitation.

1.1.3 Interpretation or Representations. The State of Montana assumes no responsibility for any interpretation or representations made by any of its officers or agents unless interpretations or representations are incorporated into a formal written addendum to the solicitation.

1.1.4 Acknowledgment of Addendum. If the IFB is amended, then all terms and conditions which are not modified remain unchanged. It is the bidder's responsibility to keep informed of any changes to the solicitation. **Bidders must sign and return with their bid an Acknowledgment of Addendum for any addendum issued.** Bids that fail to include an Acknowledgment of Addendum may be considered nonresponsive.

1.1.5 Extension of Prices. In the case of error in the extension of prices in the bid, the unit price will govern. In a lot bid, the lot price will govern.

1.1.6 Bid Preparation Costs. The costs for developing and delivering responses to this IFB are entirely the responsibility of the bidder. The State is not liable for any expense incurred by the bidder in the preparation and presentation of their bid or any other costs incurred by the bidder prior to execution of a purchase order or contract.

1.2 PRE-BID QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD

Bidders may submit questions, via email, to Procurement Officer, Jennifer Garza at jgarza@mt.gov until 5 pm on Monday 5/12/08. Bidders are encouraged to use this opportunity to ask clarifying questions, obtain a better understanding of the project, or to notify the State of any ambiguities, inconsistencies, or errors discovered upon examination of this IFB. All responses to questions during the Question & Answer period will

be posted to the website as an addendum to the IFB by 5 pm on Wednesday 5/14/08. The addendum must be signed and returned with your bid.

1.3 BID SUBMISSION

1.3.1 Bids Must Be Sealed and Labeled. Bids must be sealed and labeled on the outside of the package to clearly indicate that they are in response to IFB0810031-JG. ***Bids must be received at the desk of the Procurement Officer, Jennifer Garza, prior to 2 p.m., local time, 5/27/08.*** All prices and notations must be printed in ink or typewritten. Errors should be crossed out, corrections entered, and initialed by the person signing the bid.

1.3.2 Late Bids. Regardless of cause, late bids will not be accepted and will automatically be disqualified from further consideration. It shall be the bidder's sole risk to assure delivery at the receptionist's desk at the designated office by the designated time. Late bids will not be opened and may be returned to the bidder at the expense of the bidder or destroyed if requested.

1.3.3 Bidder's Signature. The solicitation must be signed in ink by an individual authorized to legally bind the business submitting the bid. The bidder's signature on a bid in response to this IFB guarantees that the offer has been established without collusion and without effort to preclude the State of Montana from obtaining the best possible supply or service.

1.3.4 Alternate Bids. Bidders may submit alternate bids (a bid on supplies other than specified). Alternate bids are considered only if the bidder is the lowest responsible vendor on their primary bid. Bids must be clearly identified as "Primary" and "Alternate."

1.3.5 Descriptive Literature. Complete manufacturer's descriptive literature sufficient in detail to establish quality and compliance with all specifications must be submitted with each bid. The State reserves the right to examine products further to determine compliance with the stated specifications.

1.3.6 Number of bids to be submitted. Bidder must submit one original and two copies of the bid. Each copy must include copies of all the required attachments, including the Descriptive Literature, Bid Sheet (Front page of bid and Section 5 bid sheet), Workman's Compensation Certificate and Warranty Information.

1.4 CHANGE OR WITHDRAWAL OF BIDS

1.4.1 Change or Withdrawal PRIOR to Bid Opening. Should any bidder desire to change or withdraw a bid prior to the scheduled opening, the bidder may do so by making such request in writing to the Procurement Officer listed in Section 1.1.1 above. This communication must be received prior to the date and hour of the bid opening by a request in writing or facsimile to the procurement officer (e-mail notices containing prices are not allowed and will be disqualified).

1.4.2 Change AFTER Bid Opening But Prior to Bid Award. After bids are opened, they may not be changed except to correct patently obvious mistakes and minor variations as allowed by ARM 2.5.505. The bidder shall submit verification of the correct bid to the State prior to the final award by the State.

1.5 BID AWARDS

1.5.1 Basis for Award. Bid award, if made, will be to the responsive and responsible bidder who offers the lowest cost to the State in accordance with the specifications set forth in the invitation for bid.

1.5.2 Rejection of Bids. While the State has every intention to award a contract as a result of this IFB, issuance of the IFB in no way constitutes a commitment by the State of Montana to award and execute a contract. Upon a determination such actions would be in its best interest, the State, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to:

- Cancel or terminate this IFB (18-4-307, MCA);
- Waive any undesirable, inconsequential, or inconsistent provisions of this IFB which would not have significant impact on any bid (ARM 2.5.505); or
- If awarded, terminate any contract if the State determines adequate state funds are not available (18-4-313, MCA).

SECTION 2: DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS

2.0 DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS

2.0.1 Delivery Date. The DELIVERY DATE space on the cover sheet must be completed to indicate day, month, and year, or a specific number of days after receipt of order (ARO). Failure to comply with the requirements may invalidate a bidder's quotation for any or all items.

2.0.2 Requested Delivery Date. The Contractor shall deliver all items described in this bid as soon as possible but no later than 45 business days after receipt of purchase order from the State of Montana. Installation and Training must be completed within 14 business days after delivery of machine.

2.0.3 Shipping. Weekends and holidays excepted, deliveries shall be **F.O.B. DESTINATION**, to the location shown below. The term "F.O.B. destination, within the State's premises," as used in this clause, means free of expense to the State and delivered to the location specified. The Contractor shall:

- Pack and mark the shipment to comply with specifications; or if the specifications do not contain specific packing or marking instructions, pack and mark the shipment in accordance with prevailing commercial practices and in such a manner as to ensure delivery in good condition and as required by this IFB;
- Prepare and distribute commercial bills of lading and Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) as appropriate;
- Deliver the shipment in good order and condition to the point of delivery specified in the IFB;
- Be responsible for any loss of and/or damage to the goods occurring before receipt of the shipment by the State at the delivery point specified in the IFB;
- Furnish a delivery schedule and designate the mode of delivering carrier; and
- Pay and bear all charges to the specified points of delivery.

2.0.4 Delivery Locations.

The system must be delivered to and installed at the:
State Environmental Laboratory, 1400 Broadway Room B-212, Helena MT 59620

SECTION 3: SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

3.0 PURCHASING CARD

The State of Montana has a Purchasing Card Program in place that gives agencies the ability to charge purchases made from these contracts. The State of Montana prefers this method of payment.

3.1 ON-SITE REQUIREMENTS/CLEANUP

Each potential contractor should visit the job site to verify measurements and to become fully aware of the conditions relating to the project and the labor requirements. Failure to do so will not relieve the successful contractor of their obligation to furnish all materials and labor necessary to carry out the provisions of the contract.

The Contractor shall adequately protect the work, adjacent property, and the public in all phases of the work. The Contractor shall be responsible for all damages or injury due to their action or neglect.

The Contractor shall maintain access to all phases of the project pending inspection by the State or its representative.

All work rejected as unsatisfactory shall be corrected prior to final inspection and acceptance.

The Contractor shall respond within seven calendar days after notice of observed defects has been given and shall proceed to immediately remedy these defects. Should the Contractor fail to respond to the notice or not remedy the defects, the State may have the work corrected at the Contractor's expense.

In terms of cleanup during and following the installation of the equipment, the Contractor shall:

- (a) Keep the premises free from debris and accumulation of waste;
- (b) Clean up any spills;
- (c) Keep machinery/system clean;
- (d) Remove all construction equipment, tools, and excess materials before final payment by the State.

3.2 COMPLIANCE WITH WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT

Contractors are required to comply with the provisions of the Montana Workers' Compensation Act while performing work for the State of Montana in accordance with the sections 39-71-401, 39-71-405, and 39-71-417, MCA. Proof of compliance must be in the form of workers' compensation insurance, an independent contractor exemption, or documentation of corporate officer status. Neither the Contractor nor its employees are employees of the State. This insurance/exemption must be valid for the entire term of the contract. A renewal document must be sent to the DPHHS/Central Purchasing Office, 111 N Sanders St, Rm 8, Helena, MT 59620, upon expiration.

3.3 INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

3.3.1 General Requirements. The Contractor shall maintain for the duration of the contract, at its cost and expense, insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property, including contractual liability, which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the work by the Contractor, agents, employees, representatives, assigns, or subcontractors. This insurance shall cover such claims as may be caused by any negligent act or omission.

3.3.2 Primary Insurance. The Contractor's insurance coverage shall be primary insurance as respect to the State, its officers, officials, employees, and volunteers and shall apply separately to each project or location. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the State, its officers, officials, employees, or volunteers shall be in excess of the Contractor's insurance and shall not contribute with it.

3.4 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

All patents and other legal rights in or to inventions created in whole or in part under the contract must be available to the State for royalty-free and nonexclusive licensing. Both parties shall have a royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable right to reproduce, publish, or otherwise use and authorize others to use, copyrightable property created under the contract.

3.5 PATENT AND COPYRIGHT PROTECTION

3.5.1 Third Party Claim. In the event of any claim by any third party against the State that the products furnished under this contract infringe upon or violate any patent or copyright, the State shall promptly notify the Contractor. The Contractor shall defend such claim, in the State's name or its own name, as appropriate, but at the Contractor's expense. The Contractor will indemnify the State against all costs, damages, and attorney's fees that accrue as a result of such claim. If the State reasonably concludes that its interests are not being properly protected, or if principles of governmental or public law are involved, it may enter any action.

3.5.2 Product Subject of Claim. If any product furnished is likely to or does become the subject of a claim of infringement of a patent or copyright, then the Contractor may, at its option, procure for the State the right to continue using the alleged infringing product, or modify the product so that it becomes noninfringing. If none of the above options can be accomplished, or if the use of such product by the State shall be prevented by injunction, the State will determine if the contract has been breached.

3.6 CONTRACT TERMINATION

3.6.1 Termination for Cause with Notice to Cure Requirement. The State may terminate this contract for failure of the Contractor to perform any of the services, duties, or conditions contained in this contract after giving the Contractor written notice of the stated failure. The written notice must demand performance of the stated failure within a specified period of time of not less than 30 days. If the demanded performance is not completed within the specified period, the termination is effective at the end of the specified period.

3.6.2 Reduction of Funding. The State, at its sole discretion, may terminate or reduce the scope of this contract if available funding is reduced for any reason (18-4-313, MCA).

SECTION 4: SPECIFICATIONS AND PRICING SCHEDULE

4.0 EQUIVALENT PRODUCTS

Requirements designated in this bid must be satisfied, or a functional equivalent bid submitted, which is acceptable to the State. Bidders who do not meet this criterion may be disqualified from further consideration. A bidder must state if they are unable or unwilling to meet any requirement. Inability or unwillingness to meet any requirement, in part or total, may be cause for disqualification of the entire response. Any exceptions taken by the bidder must be clearly identified on the bid forms.

4.1 PRICES

4.1.1 Taxes, Shipping, and Invoicing. The prices herein specified, unless otherwise expressly stated, shall exclude all taxes and duties of any kind which either party is required to pay with respect to the sale of products covered by this IFB, but shall include all charges and expenses in connection with the packing of the products and their carriage to the place of delivery to the State unless specifically excluded. Bid prices shall include any and all transportation costs. The Contractor shall be paid, except as otherwise stated in this IFB, upon submission of a proper invoice, the prices stipulated herein for products, and/or services delivered to and accepted at the specified State location(s).

4.1.2 Fixed Price Contract. All prices are fixed for the duration of the contract and are not subject to escalation for any cause. Payment of the total fixed bid price shall constitute full payment for performance of the work and covers all costs of whatever nature incurred by the Contractor in accomplishing the work in accordance with the provisions of the contract.

4.2 SPECIFICATIONS AND PRICING SCHEDULE

4.2.1 Name of Supply or Service. A new "Multi-parameter automated titration and ion analysis system" for the analysis of alkalinity, pH and specific conductance. The State of Montana Environmental Laboratory expects that this system will cost under \$45,000.

4.2.2 Purpose/Use for Supply or Service. The State of Montana Environmental Laboratory is soliciting bids for a new "multi-parameter automated titration and ion analysis system" for the analysis of alkalinity, pH and specific conductance from one sample aliquot. The State Environmental Laboratory is a high-throughput environmental laboratory which must accurately analyze and report a large number of samples in a short period of time.

4.3 MINIMUM CRITERIA FOR THE SYSTEM

4.3.1 Automated System. Minimum criteria:

- Complete automation for pH, conductivity, p-alkalinity, total alkalinity, bicarbonate, carbonate and hydroxide
- System must be upgradeable to add automated Turbidity and BOD analyses, following EPA approved methods
- Methods must follow approved EPA protocols for the analytes listed above
- The system must have received US EPA Environmental Technology Verification (ETV)
- The system must allow for multiple end-points for titrations
- The system must allow for user-selected specific parameters to be analyzed in each individual sample in a run, with the capability to analyze all parameters from a single aliquot
- The pH probe must have the ability to use at least three calibration buffers: 4, 7, and 10

- The pH probe must allow for temperature compensation either through the probe, by manual entry or fixed at 25° C
- The conductivity electrode must be calibrated using manual or automated determination of KCl standards

4.3.2 Software / Computer System. Minimum Criteria:

- Must employ a Windows XP based Titration and Ion Analysis Software package (no special interface cards required)
- The system must include a 17" color flat-screen monitor and a laser printer
- Software must allow storage of methods, data, calibration, database, results and calculation files
- The following must be saved: sample ID, lot number, operator, batch number, date, time and analysis method.
- Software must have an unlimited number of calculations available for any sample.
- Software must display, in real time, results of all samples, QCs and calibrations analyzed during a run.
- For pH analysis, the software must record and save the pH/concentration value, corresponding mV value, total stability time and temperature, for audit trail purposes.
- Software must be able to export results to LIMS in the format defined by the end-user.
- Software must display titration curve, method file used, elapsed time, titration time, current injection volume, real time endpoints, current schedule run and step, sample list, raw data and other analyte results on the computer screen during the analysis.
- Software must offer pH, conductivity, ISE and Linear calibration profiles. Each calibration must allow for up to 16 standards using linear, quadratic or multi-point (point-to-point) calibration fitting. Each calibration through the software must be saved for GLP purposes (not saved in the meter) and be used for sample analysis through the software calibration profile.
- Software must be capable of real time calibrations during analysis of samples. This includes real time reporting on the screen and in printed form of calibration results.
- System must allow interruption of an ongoing analysis run so that Priority/Rush samples may be added and analyzed immediately or at any point in the scheduled run with the definition of any sampler location.
- Software must automatically speciate alkalinity into bicarbonate, carbonate and hydroxide concentrations based on the ratio of p-alkalinity to total alkalinity.
- Software must report analysis results with titration curve, with endpoint values and calculation results to the screen and/or to the printer and/or exported to LIMS – all simultaneously.

4.3.3 Quality Control in the Software. Minimum criteria:

- Quality control data and plots must be available for sample results and electrode calibration results including, pH, conductivity, alkalinity, etc. and duplicate results. The QC data and plots must display graphically and list the values numerically with the user-entered minimum, maximum, target, mean and standard deviation values.
- The QC acceptance/rejection parameters (minimum/maximum values and standard deviation limits) must be linked to real time analysis for automatic user defined actions if the QCs fail any of the acceptance/rejection parameters. Some of the actions to be completed if the QC fails include immediate re-analysis of the sample from the same sample cup, flagging of sample results and/or termination of the analysis with a message detailing the problem.

4.3.4 Hardware. Minimum criteria:

- Buret drive must offer 48,000 steps per stroke for high resolution titrations.
- Burets must employ ceramic valves for minimization of air bubbles and chemical inertness.
- System must have inputs and be upgradeable four (4) burets, turbidity, UV/VIS spectrophotometer, and multiple modules.
- Burets must be capable of using interchangeable buret sets.
- System must have the capability to connect up to 30 additional reagent addition pumps.

- System must have inputs for four (4) separate electrodes, each with separate reference and switchable grounding paths for electrodes 2, 3 and 4.
- System must be modular.
- System must use an intelligent rinse system that monitors the concentration results of the previous sample to determine the amount of rinse plus monitor, record and save the conductivity of the rinse water to ensure that the entire system is clean before analyzing the next sample. The acceptable conductivity acceptable is user defined within the software.
- The system must include conductivity with auto-ranging capabilities and a K=1.00 cell with automatic temperature compensation at the measurement site.
- The conductivity measurement must be completely separated from the pH electrode to eliminate interference from reference solution leakage.
- Conductivity system must be connected to system and completely controlled by the software, including calibrations.
- The pH measurement must include temperature compensation at the site of the pH measurement.
- Software must be upgradeable to include automated integrated Turbidity analysis from the same cup.

4.3.5 Autosampler. Minimum criteria:

- Autosampler must be a Robotic XYZ Sampler driven by Windows XP-based Titration and Ion Analysis Software.
- Autosampler must be a single arm type moving probes to the sample. Samples do not move.
- Probes on autosampler must contact sample only once to analyze all parameters.
- Autosampler must include a separate liquid handling module allowing for automatic pipetting of sample. This enables multiple analyte detection from one sample cup (i.e., conductivity, pH, p-alkalinity, total alkalinity, bicarbonate, carbonate, hydroxide in one sample) and eliminates the need for manual pipetting of the sample.
- The autosampler must be a completely separate module that can operate on its own, controlled by the software, and integrate an analysis vessel, sample transfer pump, rinse pump and gravity actuated drain valve into one complete module to facilitate automatic pipetting, sample preparation and rinsing.
- The analysis vessel in the autosampler module must allow the sample to drain from the center bottom hole and allow for software control of the drain through a pinch valve.
- The autosampler must not travel over unanalyzed samples.
- Autosampler must come complete with shelf assembly to decrease overall bench space required. Titration modules may be placed above autosampler for space savings.
- The autosampler must accommodate 73 x 50 ml sample cup positions with have enough sample volume to complete pH, conductivity, alkalinity and turbidity analyses.

4.3.6 Installation, Training and Service. Minimum criteria:

- The instrument must be installed by a certified installer, and will include on-site training.
- Installation and training must occur within 14 business days after delivery of machine. Delivery must occur within 45 business days after receipt of purchase order, as stated in Section 2.0.
- Contractor to provide 2 – 3 days of training at the end-user's site by a factory trained installation chemist.
- Any special requirements (including but not limited to, electrical requirements) must be stated on the bid.

4.3.7 Operation/Service/Parts/Training Manuals. Minimum criteria:

- Contractor must provide all Operation, Service, Parts, and Training Manuals. A complete original manufacturer's operation manual, written in English, must be provided for each item of equipment. A complete original manufacturer's service manual must be provided for each item of equipment. This manual, written in English, must include, but is not limited to, electronic schematics and technical service information to allow for complete service and repair of the equipment. Additionally, a complete

original manufacturer's training manual must be provided for the system. Photocopies or other reproductions will not be accepted. The manuals must be provided at the time of installation of the system.

4.3.8 Warranty, Repair, and Replacement. Minimum criteria:

- A one (1) year warranty is required. Provide warranty and maintenance policy details. Attach any warranty documentation. Identify factors covered by warranty and service, such as 100% parts, 100% labor, pick up and delivery, on-site repair, loaner of equivalent equipment provided if removal from site is necessary, etc.
- A standard one year warranty will apply, and there shall be an option for the instrument purchaser to purchase an extended warranty or service contract for two additional years.

4.4 Payment

Vendor to submit invoice upon delivery. Payment will be rendered within thirty business days after successful installation of system and completed training of staff.

SECTION 5: Bid Sheet

5.0 Bid Sheet. Complete the following information and return this sheet with your bid. This sheet along with the other required documents will be used during the evaluation process.

- **Vendor Name:** _____

- **All inclusive Cost (Equipment, Delivery, Installation, Training & 1 year Maintenance Agreement):**

- **Cost of years 2 & 3 of Maintenance Agreement:**

- **Brand** _____
- **Model/Make** _____

- **Special requirements/considerations (including but not limited to, electrical requirements):**

- **Highlight the information on the descriptive literature showing that the criteria from Section 4.3, parts 4.3.1 through 4.3.5, has been met. If the specified criteria are not stated on the descriptive literature, attach a document on company letterhead addressing the criteria.**

- **In addition to this bid sheet, remember to include the following required documents with your bid:**
 - **Cover Sheet from Invitation for Bid document, completing the Bidders information section. This is the first page of the document.**
 - **Descriptive Literature referred to in Section 1.3.5**
 - **Workers Compensation Certificate referred to in Section 3.2**
 - **Warranty Information referred to in Section 4.3.8**

IFB Checklist

Have you remembered to:

- Check our website for the latest addendum to the IFB
- Sign each "Acknowledgment of Addendum" if required
- Sign your bid on our cover sheet
- Mark your mailing envelope or box with the IFB number and the opening date under your return address
- Carefully review the "Standard Terms and Conditions"
- Carefully review all listed requirements to ensure compliance with the IFB
- Initial all bid/pricing changes you made
- Bid F.O.B. Destination (Ship To: Address) Freight Prepaid